

A SUMMARY OF RECORDS OF LASIOCEPHALA  
BASALIS (KOLENATI) (TRICH.:  
SERICOSTOMATIDAE) FROM THE AREA  
ADMINISTERED BY WELSH WATER

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*Lasiocephala basalis* is probably scarce in the U.K. although there are published records of adults from scattered localities (e.g. Breconshire, Powys: Moseley, 1929; Staffordshire: Daltry, 1933; north-west England: Routledge, 1933; Yorkshire: Brown and Whitehead 1938; Carmarthenshire, Dyfed: Jenkins, 1979). Crichton *et al.* (1978) did not record the species between 1965 and 1971 from any of 67 Rothamsted traps distributed throughout the U.K. Larvae have been previously recorded from Bere Stream, Dorset (Hiley, 1972 and pers. comm.), from the River Taf at Whitland, Carmarthenshire (Jenkins, 1975) and from a stream near Ross-on-Wye, Herefordshire (Dr. I. D. Wallace, pers. comm.).

Further records of larvae, pupae and adults are now available from the area administered by Welsh Water (formerly Welsh Water Authority) and were compiled, together with some ecological aspects of the sites, from surveys by Welsh Water (R.A.J.), from the Freshwater Biological Association River Communities Project (Dr. J. F. Wright, unpubl.), from a survey of 45 sites in the catchment of the River Wye (S.J.O. vouchers confirmed by Dr. D. Hiley) and from specimens and records held at Liverpool City Museum (Dr. I. D. Wallace, pers. comm.). The recent records (1974 – present) are summarised in Table 1 and their distribution is shown in Fig. 1. The records generally confirm that *L. basalis* is widespread, but rather local in Wales. Larval and pupal occurrences were generally in the mid to lower reaches of rivers which had total hardnesses in excess of 30 mg l<sup>-1</sup> (as Ca CO<sub>3</sub>). The most mature specimens generally occurred in March and April and at the river margins, although specimens were also taken from mid stream and in riffles at some of the sites.

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Site	O.S. Ref.	Date	Stage	Habitat	Altitude (m.O.D.)	Mean total hardness*	Source
Taf	SN 188 167	26. 3.74	L	Margins; mid-Stream)	20	N/A	1
	SN 188 167	19. 8.76	A				
Taf	SN 237 162	22. 4.80	L	Margins	15	59	3
	SN 075 172	18. 6.81	P				
Eastern Cleddau	SN 075 172	30. 4.82	L	Margins N/A	12	35	3
	SN 106 224	2.12.82	L				
Western Cleddau	SM 954 197	30. 6.77	PC	Margin	11	45.5	3
Tefi	SN 217 437	7. 4.78	L	N/A	15	34.5	4
		29. 4.80	P				
Clwyd	SI 060 719	10.10.79	L	N/A	15	N/A	4
Afon Wheeler	SI 094 696	22. 4.81	L	Riffle	40	N/A	5
	SI 105 715	1982	A	-	120	-	6
Dee	SI 33 40	22. 6.75	L	N/A	40	N/A	6
Arrow	SO 280 551	23. 3.82	L	Margins	170	84.2	7
Lugg	SO 348 641	23. 3.82	L	Margins	132	131.8	7
Honddu	SO 335 232	26. 3.82	L	Margins	120	130.7	7
Llynnau Gregonen	SH 657 143	14. 6.82	A	-	260	-	6
Ty'n-y- Cennant	SH 697 153	14. 6.82	A	-	180	-	6
Afon Wnion	SH 772 201	15. 6.82	A	-	75	-	6

TABLE 1. All records since 1974 of *Lasiocephala basalis* Kol. in the area administered by Welsh Water.\*as mg CaCO<sub>3</sub> per litre. n  $\neq$  10. L = larva ; P=pupal case ; A = adult.Sources 1 Jenkins 1975 ; 2 Jenkins 1979 ; 3 Jenkins unpubl.  
4 Wright unpubl. ; 5 Welsh Water unpubl. ; 6 Liverpool City Museum ; 7 Ormerod unpubl.



FIGURE 1. All records since 1974 of *Lasiocephala basalis* Kol. Open symbols: adults : Closed symbols : larvae and pupae. Encircled record : pupal case only.

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